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11-6992

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

CARL MARCY, CHIEF OF STAFF
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August 13, 1959

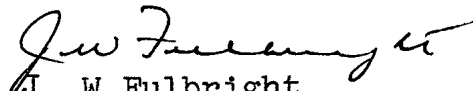
Honorable Allen W. Dulles
Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Dulles:

Enclosed is a copy of S. 2188, "To provide for the establishment of a Citizens' Council for Advocacy of Freedom", which was introduced by Senator Wiley (for himself and others) on June 16, 1959.

The Committee would appreciate having the comments of the Central Intelligence Agency on this bill.

Very truly yours,


J. W. Fulbright
Chairman

Enclosure

86TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2188

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 16, 1959

Mr. WILEY (for himself, Mr. BRIDGES, Mr. CARLSON, Mr. COOPER, Mr. DODD, Mr. GRUENING, Mr. MOSS, Mr. SPARKMAN, Mr. WILLIAMS of New Jersey, Mr. SCOTT, Mr. HUMPHREY, Mr. PROXMIRE, and Mr. CLARK) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

A BILL

To provide for the establishment of a Citizens' Council for
Advocacy of Freedom.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 FINDINGS AND PURPOSE

4 SECTION 1. The Congress finds and declares that the
5 ideological struggle between the free world and the Com-
6 munist powers is one of the most crucial fronts of the "cold
7 war". Political, economic, and military alinements can well
8 be shaped by its outcome. If the ideals of freedom, as
9 symbolized in this country, are to prevail in that struggle
10 for men's minds and hearts the vague, blurred, and often

1 distorted image of America which has been created by our
2 adversaries must be replaced with a picture of the American
3 and free way of life which is not only truthful but under-
4 standable to other peoples and translatable to their needs
5 and aspirations.

6 It is the purpose of this Act to provide, through a high-
7 level Council composed of outstanding persons from private
8 life who are leaders in the informational fields, and officials
9 from the legislative and executive branches of the Govern-
10 ment, for a reevaluation of the scope of the Communist
11 ideological challenge, and of the adequacy of existing pro-
12 grams, together with recommendations for improving
13 policies and procedures, to meet that challenge.

14 ESTABLISHMENT OF COUNCIL

15 SEC. 2. (a) There is hereby established a Council to be
16 known as the Citizen's Council for Advocacy of Freedom
17 (hereinafter referred to as the "Council").

18 (b) The Council shall be composed as follows:

19 (1) Four members appointed by the President from
20 private life;

21 (2) Four members appointed by the President of
22 the Senate, two from the Senate (one from each political
23 party) and two from private life;

24 (3) Four members appointed by the Speaker of

1 the House of Representatives, two from the House of
2 Representatives (one from each political party) and two
3 from private life;

4 (4) Three members to be designated by the Presi-
5 dent, one from each of the following agencies: the
6 United States Information Agency, the Central Intelli-
7 gence Agency, and the International Cooperation Ad-
8 ministration; and

9 (5) Such other members as the President may
10 designate, from time to time, as essential to the functions
11 of the Council.

12 (c) In selecting members from private life, the Presi-
13 dent, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the
14 House of Representatives, respectively, shall make certain
15 that at least half of these members represent radio, television,
16 publishing and/or other major forms of mass media or other
17 information dissemination or evaluation fields.

18 (d) The Council shall elect a Chairman and a Vice
19 Chairman from among the members.

20 (e) Any vacancy in the Council shall not affect its
21 powers, but shall be filled in the same manner in which the
22 original appointment was made.

23 (f) Eight members of the Council shall constitute a
24 quorum, but a lesser number may conduct hearings.

1 DUTIES OF THE COUNCIL

2 SEC. 3. The Council shall reevaluate the scope of the
3 Communist ideological challenge, and the adequacy of exist-
4 ing programs, policies, and procedures to meet the challenge.

5 In carrying out its function, the Council shall—

6 (1) make recommendations for the presentation
7 abroad of a more realistic picture of the American way
8 of life in a manner which is understandable to other
9 peoples;

10 (2) consider and make recommendations with re-
11 spect to the more effective utilization of the technique
12 and methods developed by private enterprise specialists
13 in the mass media fields for the presentation abroad of
14 the American way of life;

15 (3) formulate a program to meet the immediate
16 and long-range needs occasioned by the Communist
17 ideological offensive;

18 (4) make recommendations for coordinating ap-
19 proved programs and policies at all levels of Govern-
20 ment; and

21 (5) make recommendations for concerted and co-
22 operative action among the nations of the free world
23 in meeting the Communist ideological offensive.

1 COMPENSATION OF MEMBERS

2 SEC. 4. (a) Members of the Council from the legislative
3 and executive branches of the Government shall serve with-
4 out additional compensation, but they shall be reimbursed
5 for travel, subsistence, and other necessary expenses incurred
6 by them in the performance of the duties of the Council.

7 (b) Members of the Council from private life shall each
8 receive \$50 per diem when engaged in the performance of
9 the duties of the Council, plus reimbursement for travel, sub-
10 sistence, and other necessary expenses incurred by them in
11 the performance of such duties.

12 STAFF OF THE COUNCIL

13 SEC. 5. The Council shall have power to appoint and
14 fix the compensation of such personnel as it deems advisable,
15 without regard to the provisions of the civil service laws and
16 the Classification Act of 1949.

17 POWERS OF THE COUNCIL

18 SEC. 6. (a) The Council, or any authorized member
19 thereof, may, for the purpose of carrying out the provisions
20 of this Act, hold such hearings and sit and act at such times
21 and places, and take such testimony, as the Council or such
22 member may deem advisable. Any member of the Council

1 may administer oaths or affirmations to witnesses appearing
2 before the Council or before such member.

3 (b) The Council is authorized to secure directly from
4 any department, agency, or independent instrumentality
5 of the executive branch of the Government any information
6 it deems necessary to carry out its functions under this Act;
7 and each such department, agency, or instrumentality is
8 authorized and directed to furnish such information to the
9 Council upon request made by the Chairman or Vice
10 Chairman.

11 REPORTING

12 SEC. 7. The Council shall make a report of its findings
13 and recommendations to the President and to the Congress
14 not later than six months following its formation. Upon
15 the submission of its report all functions and powers of the
16 Commission shall terminate. There shall be included in such
17 report recommendations for subsequent evaluations, from
18 time to time as the Council may deem necessary, of our
19 information programs for the purpose of keeping such pro-
20 grams adequate to the challenge.

21 AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATION

22 SEC. 8. Such sums as may be necessary to carry out
23 the provisions of this Act are hereby authorized to be
24 appropriated.

80TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2188

A BILL

To provide for the establishment of a Citizens'
Council for Advocacy of Freedom.

By Mr. WILEY, Mr. BRIDGES, Mr. CARLSON, Mr.
COOPER, Mr. DODD, Mr. GRUENING, Mr. MOSS,
Mr. SPARKMAN, Mr. WILLIAMS of New
Jersey, Mr. SCOTT, Mr. HUMPHREY, Mr.
PROXMIRE, and Mr. CLARK

JUNE 16, 1959

Read twice and referred to the Committee on
Foreign Relations

NO. 38

ROUTE SLIP

(Fold Here)

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT BUREAU OF THE BUDGET

DATE Sept. 3, 1959

STAT
TO:

CIA

FROM: J.F.C. Hyde, Jr.

REMARKS: Per your telephone request.

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INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ADMINISTRATION

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Washington 25, D. C.

**The Honorable Alexander Wiley
United States Senate
Washington 25, D. C.**

Dear Senator Wiley:

Pursuant to your request of June 18, this Agency has carefully reviewed S. 2188, your bill "to establish a Citizens' Council for Advocacy of Freedom."

The International Cooperation Administration fully concurs in the necessity for continual evaluation of the communist global ideological challenge and of our efforts to meet that challenge. This Agency also agrees that public awareness of the importance of the "battle of men's minds" must be heightened, and that in our programs aimed at fighting this battle there is a need for a constant infusion of fresh ideas from the American communications media industry.

As you pointed out in your remarks introducing S. 2188, however, the United States Advisory Commission on Information, which was established to review the work of the United States Information Agency and to make recommendations for the improvement of its activities, has been carrying out functions very similar to those contemplated under your proposal. Also active in carrying out similar, related functions, as you know, are the Broadcast Advisory Committee and the Advisory Committee on Cultural Information, the latter group particularly composed of individuals having the qualifications and general background contemplated for the private members of the proposed Council.

You know of the programs now being carried on abroad by private groups and Governmental agencies, including USIA, to "spread the freedom word," to tell the people of other lands and other cultures about the United States and what it stands for and to combat the communist menace by furnishing reliable information world-wide. While we would not contend that these programs are perfect, we believe they can do the job given the full support and understanding of the American people.

The Honorable Alexander Wiley

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Here at home, we believe our free press has, and is discharging well, the primary responsibility for responding to the communist propaganda attack and alerting the American people to the scope and dangers of that attack. In addition, we believe the entire private communications industry is contributing fresh ideas to the Governmental agencies responsible for carrying out our information and propaganda-combating programs abroad. Again, we do not suggest that there is no room for improvement. We do believe however that sufficient, adequate instrumentalities already exist for attaining the goals envisioned in your proposal.

In brief, although as indicated the International Cooperation Administration fully concurs in the goals and purposes set forth in S. 2188, it believes that these goals may be attained through presently existing agencies and programs. Accordingly, we are unable to recommend the enactment of S. 2188.